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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/620,695	07/17/2003	Da-Yu Lin	0941-0792P	9306
2292	7590	08/11/2005	EXAMINER	
BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH PO BOX 747 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747			LETSCHER, GEORGE J	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2653	

DATE MAILED: 08/11/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/620,695

Applicant(s)

LIN, DA-YU

Examiner

George J. Letscher

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 9,10 and 12-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 11 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 17 July 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 9-10 and 12-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's Prior Art in Figures 1-2B and pages 2-3 of the specification.

The aforementioned claims recite the following features, inter alia, disclosed in Applicant's Prior Art: a turntable structure having a base, a ball bearing assembly (14), rotating assembly, an integrally formed hollow central post (20) with a sloped top end edge, a curved surface between the post and base (12), a plurality of toothed portions enabling the media player to detect the rotary position thereof and a rotating shaft (18) fit in the central post and connected to the rotating assembly (16). See Figure 2B of Applicant's Prior Art and pages 2-3 of the specification.

Regarding claim 9, Applicant's Prior Art does not show a retaining ring on the central post with a gap between the ring and the post to prevent thermal deformation of the post as well as the bearing assembly encircling the retaining ring. Regarding claim 10, Applicant's Prior Art does not disclose a retaining ring having an engaging hole and positioning groove.

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Fruge et al (US 6,903,903) disclose a cartridge bearing assembly that has a retaining ring (110) on a central post (118) having a gap at (106a, 106b) to prevent thermal deformation of the post. The bearing assembly (126 and 134 portion) encircles the retaining ring by virtue of its wider section at 134. The engaging hole of the retaining ring is its center hole and its positioning groove is between 106a and 106b. See Figure 6B of Fruge et al.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have furnished the turntable structure of Applicant's Prior Art in Figure 2B with a retaining ring on the central post with a gap between the ring and the post to prevent thermal deformation of the post as well as the bearing assembly encircling the retaining ring and the ring having a positioning groove as taught by Fruge et al. The rationale is as follows: one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to have furnished the turntable structure of Applicant's Prior Art in Figure 2B with a retaining ring on the central post with a gap between the ring and the post to prevent thermal deformation of the post as well as the bearing assembly encircling the retaining ring and the ring having its positioning groove as taught by Fruge et al since these retainer ring elements were able to expand related to its movement in relation to the pivot bearing, thereby allowing for a fit that would not interfere with the pivot bearing; see column 12, lines 37-43 of Fruge et al.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-8 are allowed.

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4. Claim 11 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

5. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the retaining ring engaging hole and positioning groove engaged with the central post protrusion and positioning portion, respectively, is not taught nor suggested in Applicant's Prior Art in Figures 1-2B and pages 2-3 nor Fruge et al. See Figure 3B which illustrates the retaining ring/central post interactions.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Choo et al (US 2002/0071206) illustrates a retaining ring outside of a bearing assembly which has a gap portion in 146.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to George J. Letscher whose telephone number is 571-272-7591.

The examiner can normally be reached on a Conventional work schedule.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Korzuch can be reached on 571-272-7589. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-437-3785 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George Letscher", with a stylized, cursive script.

George J. Letscher
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2653

GJL
8/5/05